



Laurens Middle

1035 W. Main St.
Laurens, SC 29360

Grades	6-8 Middle School	
Enrollment	451 Students	
Principal	Rhett Harris	864-984-2400
Superintendent	Dr. Billy R. Strickland	864-984-3568
Board Chair	Mrs. Susan Calhoun-Ware	864-682-5902

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2013 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2013	Average	Good
2012	Average	Average
2011	Average	Good
2010	Average	Good
2009	Average	Good

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

<http://ed.sc.gov>
<http://www.eoc.sc.gov>

Percent of Student PASS Records Matched for Purpose of Computing Growth Rating

Percent of students tested in 2012-13 whose 2011-12 test scores were located

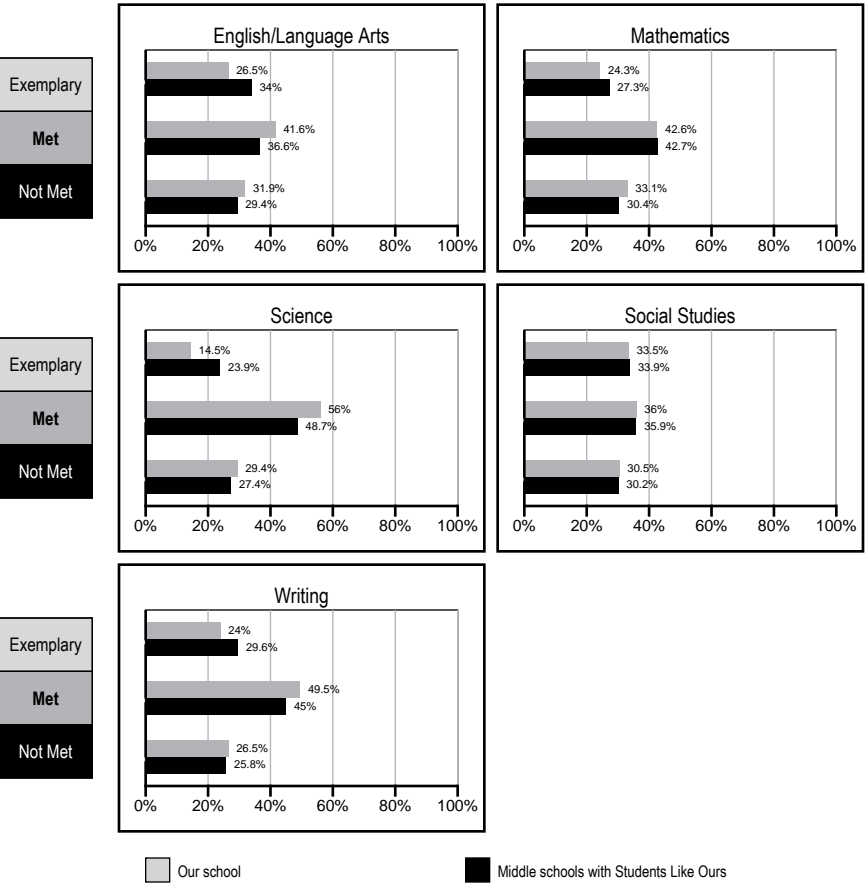
98.8%

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
3	16	44	2	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/14/2014.

Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS)



* Middle schools with Students Like Ours are middle schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the school.

Definition of Critical Terms

Exemplary	"Exemplary" means the student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.
Met	"Met" means the student met the grade level standard.
Not Met	"Not Met" means that the student did not meet the grade level standard.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable

N/AV–Not Available

N/C–Not Collected

N/R–Not Reported

I/S–Insufficient Sample

End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	100.0%	98.1%
English 1	97.4%	97.7%
Physical Science	N/A	N/A
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	98.7%	97.7%

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=451)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	15.3%	Up from 8.6%	23.4%	24.6%
Retention rate	0.4%	Down from 1.3%	0.8%	0.6%
Attendance rate	95.4%	Down from 95.6%	95.5%	95.9%
Served by gifted and talented program	22.2%	N/A	19.5%	18.5%
With disabilities	14.1%	N/A	14.1%	13.0%
Older than usual for grade	8.1%	N/A	5.9%	4.8%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.2%	Up from 0.0%	0.7%	0.6%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=24)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	45.8%	Down from 48.0%	59.8%	61.5%
Continuing contract teachers	66.7%	Down from 88.0%	79.4%	77.2%
Teachers returning from previous year	89.1%	Up from 88.0%	86.5%	85.9%
Teacher attendance rate	97.6%	Up from 97.3%	94.5%	94.9%
Average teacher salary*	\$47,113	Up 1.3%	\$47,453	\$47,313
Professional development days/teacher	11.8 days	Up from 11.6 days	10.0 days	10.1 days
School				
Principal's years at school	10.0	Up from 9.0	4.5	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	27.8 to 1	Down from 34.8 to 1	22.5 to 1	22.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	93.0%	Up from 92.0%	88.9%	89.6%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	No Change	98.2%	99.0%
Character development program	Excellent	No Change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$5,993	Down 9.9%	\$7,090	\$7,239
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	68.0%	Down from 68.8%	63.0%	63.0%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	67.0%	Down from 67.2%	61.0%	61.0%

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

Empowering students for success is our mission at Laurens Middle School. Our staff began preparing for the 2012/2013 school year by undergoing training in Behavior Tools, a program designed to equip teachers and staff for building and maintaining healthy learning relationships with students. One of our main areas of focus this year was enhancing the learning environment in a way that optimal success in teaching and learning could be achieved.

Several student-centered incentives were put into place to increase effort, participation and achievement. "Score Big, Win Big" continued to help keep day-to-day student achievement at the forefront. Students earned tickets that went into monthly drawings in which students were rewarded for their hard work. Student and teacher attendance was the focus of "Be In To Take Out," a partnership between our school and McDonald's of Laurens to reward bimonthly perfect attendance with lunches for winning students. "Leaders Making Strides" and "Terrific Tigers" involved recognizing students for positive character traits and leadership qualities with positive calls home to parents and picture displays of these students in the main lobby.

Professional development was centered on the implementation of Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Teachers and staff attended several workshops and seminars that focused on CCSS. Two book studies ran simultaneously with one focusing on Math standards and the other on ELA standards. The book studies were done using My Big Campus technology which allowed our teachers some flexibility in reading and responding to what they read. Teachers also completed work on a teaching strategies book entitled Teach Like a Champion. Laurens Middle School gave back to the community in many ways this year. Through Relay for Life, Teens for Jeans, and Make A Wish our students stepped up and gave to others who had been or might be affected by tragedy or difficulties.

We would like to thank those who served on PTO and SIC this year. These groups worked tirelessly in efforts to improve our school for the benefit of students. The leadership of these groups deserve the thanks of the entire Laurens Middle community for all they worked for and accomplished.

Rhett Harris, Ed.D., Principal
Caroline Barker, SIC Chairperson

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	20	130	88
Percent satisfied with learning environment	90%	80.7%	86.3%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	85%	85.3%	80.9%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	70%	89.1%	78.7%

* Only students at the highest middle school grade level and their parents were included.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

ESEA/Federal Accountability Rating System

In July 2013, the South Carolina Department of Education was granted a waiver from several accountability requirements of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This waiver allowed SC to replace the former pass/fail system with one that utilizes more of the statewide assessments already in place and combine these subject area results with graduation rate (in high schools) to determine if each school met the target or made progress toward the target. This analysis results in a letter grade for the school rather than the pass/fail system of previous years. For a detailed review of the matrix for each school and districts that determined the letter grade, please use the following link: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/eSEA/> or request this information from your child's district or school.

Overall Weighted Points Total	68.2
Overall Grade Conversion	D

Index Score	Grade	Description
90-100	A	Performance substantially exceeds the state's expectations.
80-89.9	B	Performance exceeds the state's expectations.
70-79.9	C	Performance meets the state's expectations.
60-69.9	D	Performance does not meet the state's expectations.
Less than 60	F	Performance is substantially below the state's expectations

Accountability Indicator for Title I Schools

Laurens Middle school has been designated as a:

- ☐ Title I Reward School for Performance - among the highest performing Title I schools in a given year.
- ☐ Title I Reward School for Progress – one of the schools with substantial progress in student subgroups.
- ☐ Title I Focus School – one of the schools with the highest average performance gap between subgroups.
- ☐ Title I Priority School – one of the 5% lowest performing Title I schools.
- ☐ Title I School – does not qualify as Reward, Focus or Priority School.
- ☒ Non-Title I School – therefore the designations above are not applicable.

Teacher Quality and Student Attendance

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	2.3%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	4.9%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	0.0%	Yes
Student attendance rate	95.4%	94.0%*	Yes

* Or greater than last year

Performance By Group

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested
Grades 6-8						
All Students	641.7	639.7	619.3	632.2	99.3	99.6
Male	637.3	639.6	616.8	632.1	99.1	99.1
Female	646.1	639.8	621.7	632.4	99.6	100.0
White	657.8	653.4	633.9	640.5	99.2	99.6
African American	624.2	625.2	603.6	624.7	99.4	99.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	622.0	622.0	601.9	618.2	100.0	100.0
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	600.1	594.8	572.0	589.6	98.5	98.5
Limited English Proficient	623.8	625.3	599.8	625.1	100.0	100.0
Subsidized meals	629.2	629.0	609.8	626.7	99.1	99.4
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	628.0	628.0	628.0	628.0	95.0	95.0

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable N/AV–Not Available N/C–Not Collected N/R–Not Reported I/S–Insufficient Sample

PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
English/Language Arts							
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	155	100	37.8	28.4	33.8	62.2
	7	159	100	39.2	34.6	26.1	60.8
	8	126	100	23	50	27	77
2013	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	154	99.4	29.8	48.2	22	70.2
	7	145	99.3	26.7	40	33.3	73.3
	8	160	99.4	38.1	36.7	25.2	61.9
Mathematics							
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	155	100	24.3	45.3	30.4	75.7
	7	159	99.4	36.2	40.1	23.7	63.8
	8	126	100	30.3	48.4	21.3	69.7
2013	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	154	99.4	29.8	45.4	24.8	70.2
	7	145	99.3	29.9	44.8	25.4	70.1
	8	160	99.4	38.8	38.1	23.1	61.2
Science							
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	76	98.7	30.6	63.9	5.6	69.4
	7	158	100	32.2	48	19.7	67.8
	8	62	100	26.7	45	28.3	73.3
2013	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	76	98.7	42.3	53.5	4.2	57.7
	7	144	100	28.4	59	12.7	71.6
	8	82	100	19.5	53.2	27.3	80.5

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable N/AV–Not Available N/C–Not Collected N/R–Not Reported I/S–Insufficient Sample

PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
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Social Studies

2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	80	97.5	33.8	48.6	17.6	66.2
	7	159	100	31.4	43.1	25.5	68.6
	8	64	100	14.5	40.3	45.2	85.5
2013	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	77	98.7	27.1	50	22.9	72.9
	7	145	100	25.2	34.8	40	74.8
	8	78	98.7	42.9	25.7	31.4	57.1

Writing

2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	128	100	28	42.4	29.6	72
2013	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	153	100	23.8	51	25.2	76.2
	7	144	98.6	23.2	50	26.8	76.8
	8	157	97.5	31.8	48	20.3	68.2

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